

WI-344
H. S. Bennett Store Building
Sharptown
Private

c. 1890

The H. S. Bennett store building is a distinctive commercial structure that helps define Sharptown's business 19th century business district. The two-story, gable-front architectural form, with commercial display windows on the first floor, was a common building form for village stores during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The two-story porch, however, is less typical for its time as well as for its intact nature. Slender Tuscan columns support mark the first story, and turned posts featuring sawn corner brackets distinguish the second story. A secondary side entrance allowed for direct access to a stairway that leads to the second floor.

For many older residents in Sharptown, this building is identified as the Howard S. Bennett drugstore, and he operated a pharmacy in Sharptown during the middle years of the 20th century. He and wife Edna owned the property between 1944 and 1953. The chain of title research for the store building traces its ownership to Joseph W. and Malvina V. Phillips, who owned the store and lot during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: H. S. Bennett Store Building

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-344

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
 1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Store

Map 400, Parcel 408

Roland A. Milligan

Jerry B. Matyiko

Evelyn E. Dennis

Roland A. Milligan

Roland A. Milligan
Edna B. Milligan

Evelyn E. Dennis

to

Roland A. Milligan
Edna B. Milligan

WI-344
Bennett Store Building
310-12 Main Street
Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JWTS 492/326

Gene T. Dukes
Katherine S. Dukes

to

1/13/1960

Doris M. Collins

Lot No. 1 Wright Property

JWTS 351/535

Howard S. Bennett
Edna P. Bennett

to

10/15/1953

Gene T. Dukes
Katherine S. Dukes

J W S 264/520

Mary E. Wright, widow

to

11/6/1944

Howard S. Bennett
Edna P. Bennett

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310-12 Main Street
Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

Page 3

IDT 184/253 Levin C. Bailey, trustee

to

7/18/1934 Mary E. Wright

Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court, 9/5/1933, J. Wilbur Phillips and Beatrice P. Phillips, et al. were defendants being No. 4352 in Chancery-being the the same land that was conveyed to one M. Victoria Phillips in her lifetime by J. Wilbur Phillips and Dorothy T. Phillips, 10/29/1902, JTT 34/120, being the same land of which the said M. Victoria Phillips died seized...

JTT 34/120 J. Wilbur Phillips
Dorothy Phillips

to

10/29/1902 Malvina V. Phillips, wife of Joseph W. Phillips
adjoining the property of A. W. Robinson & Co.
on the west, Samuel J. Cooper on the north,
Elizabeth T. Bounds on the south having a front
on said Main Street of 84 ½ feet and a depth of
97 ½ feet

JTT 21/381 Joseph W. Phillips
Malvina V. Phillips

to

12/16/1897 J. Wilbur Phillips
\$800.00

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Chain of title continued

Page 4

Charles W. Selby
and Jay Williams, trustee

to

8/28/1894

Malvina V. Phillips

JTT 11/23

Robert P. Graham, trustee

to

2/2/1893

Charles W. Selby

Whereas the aforesaid Robert P. Graham was duly
appointed preliminary trustee for the benefit of the
creditors of John W. Selby, insolvent

SPT 2/299

Josiah J. Truitt and Kate P. Truitt of Dorchester Co.

to

11/13/1876

John W. Selby

½ acre \$400.00 "Robertson's Delight"

being the same houses and lot which was formerly
conveyed from Clement J. Gravenor and wife to
Samuel J. Phillips and from said Samuel J. Phillips
to William T. Phillips and from said Phillips to the
said Josiah J. Truitt

port to
times

more
on
which
plus
of new
of
10

of the
pointed
born
Mfr
for
popular
none
labor
and
and

which
may
water
main
ed wa
noth
wa
there
pros
many
small
and an
away
of
than is
ch man
fertiliz
prod-
farm
s, and
boats
build-

within
avail-
of fire
there
ons for
pend-
con-
on an
town
and as

Monday of each month in the Fire
Hall. The Chamber has been in-
strumental in getting a new state
road between Sharptown and Mar-
del, and in getting a new boat
ramp at Cherry Beach, now un-
der construction.

Windsor Knows All Cashier

er of all phases of modern financial
service. Where most of their loans
are in local real estate, install-
ment, over, auto and appliance
financing are also offered.
Mr. Windsor brought out the
first Cashier of Windsor, Sharptown.

Outboards Race On The Nanticoke River At Sharptown



TOWN DRUGGIST. Carroll Twilley is shown here holding one of the old pharmaceutical decanters once used by Dr. H. S. Bennett, former druggist in Sharptown. Twilley's Rexal Store has for nine years taken the place of the old drug store in Sharptown as a center for the

ice cream crowd, with a full line of popular medicines and cosmetics. While not a druggist, Mr. Twilley carries just about everything in the patent medicine line, magazines, toys, notions, candy, and sandwiches.

Continued From Page 10

SHARPTOWN

one ship built at
000 made \$1,000,000
1920.

Then the shipyard was
local owners to New
tal, and called the Evans
Shipbuilding Co. During
employment boomed. A
rine barge and small
were built; but on the
peace the company went
for \$1,500,000. Shipyard

In the meantime a new
ic business had developed
Marvil Package Co. For
Sharptown by the Robert
manufacturers of
farm packages made east
of the river to haul lumber
the Carolinas. About 175 men
employed here in normal
tions.

BUT ONCE more a local
try was sold to outside
The Atlas Plywood Co. It
ed the stock of the Marvil
age Co. While operations w
tinued for a time as the
large company of employ
ed its Sharptown plant
plant in a distant town, at
a disastrous fire destr
factory, it was not re
ed.

About 95 per cent of Sh
men now work out of town
which every one is doing
remedy.



**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-344

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common H. S. Bennett Store Building

2. Location

street & number 310-12 Main Street not for publication

city, town Sharptown vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> X</u> building(s)	<u> X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> X</u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jerry B. Matyiko

street & number 206 East Water Street telephone no.:

city, town Sharptown state and zip code Maryland 21861

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 400, P. 408
liber 1047

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 106

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-344

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The H. S. Bennett store building is located at 310-312 Main Street in the center of Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay by five-bay structure faces northeast with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Estimated to date around 1890-1900, the two-story, gable-front frame store is supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a uniform layer of vinyl siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The northeast (main) elevation is an asymmetrical three-bay facade with a two-story hip roofed porch sheltering much of the front wall. The porch is supported by wooden columns on the first floor and turned posts with scroll brackets on the second. At the top of the first story level there is a pent eave covered with asphalt shingles. The first floor wall is defined by a large commercial storefront with a recessed entrance and large glass display windows to each side. Finishing the commercial front below the windows is a series of rectangular panels. A secondary entrance is fixed in the south corner of the first floor as an access to the side staircase. The second floor is a three-bay wall with a center door and flanking single-pane sash windows. Each window and door lintel has a slight cornice molding. The gable end is pierced by set of paired single-pane sash windows. Trimming the edge of the roof is an extended eave finished with returns at the base of the roof.

The north wall is an asymmetrical five-bay elevation with two single-pane sash windows marking the southern two bays, while five regularly spaced single-pane sash light the second floor. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice trimmed with bed and crown moldings.

The south wall is pierced by single-pane sash windows and an interior brick stove chimney pierces the roofline.

The building has been converted into a apartments.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-344

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The H. S. Bennett store building is a distinctive commercial structure that helps define Sharptown's business 19th century business district. The two-story, gable-front architectural form, with commercial display windows on the first floor, was a common building form for village stores during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The two-story porch, however, is less typical for its time as well as for its intact nature. Slender Tuscan columns support mark the first story, and turned posts featuring sawn corner brackets distinguish the second story. A secondary side entrance allowed for direct access to a stairway that leads to the second floor.

For many older residents in Sharptown, this building is identified as the Howard S. Bennett drugstore, and he operated a pharmacy in Sharptown during the middle years of the 20th century.¹ He and wife Edna owned the property between 1944 and 1953.² The chain of title research for the store building traces its ownership to Joseph W. and Malvina V. Phillips, who owned the store and lot during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The H. S. Bennett store building stands as tangible evidence of the former business district that thrived along Main Street during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The building should be listed in *Category A*.

¹ *The Salisbury Times*, June 14, 1958.

² Wicomico County Land Records, JWS 264/520, 6 November 1944 and JWTS 351/535, 15 October 1953.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-344

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting NorthingB

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting NorthingC

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 3/15/98

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

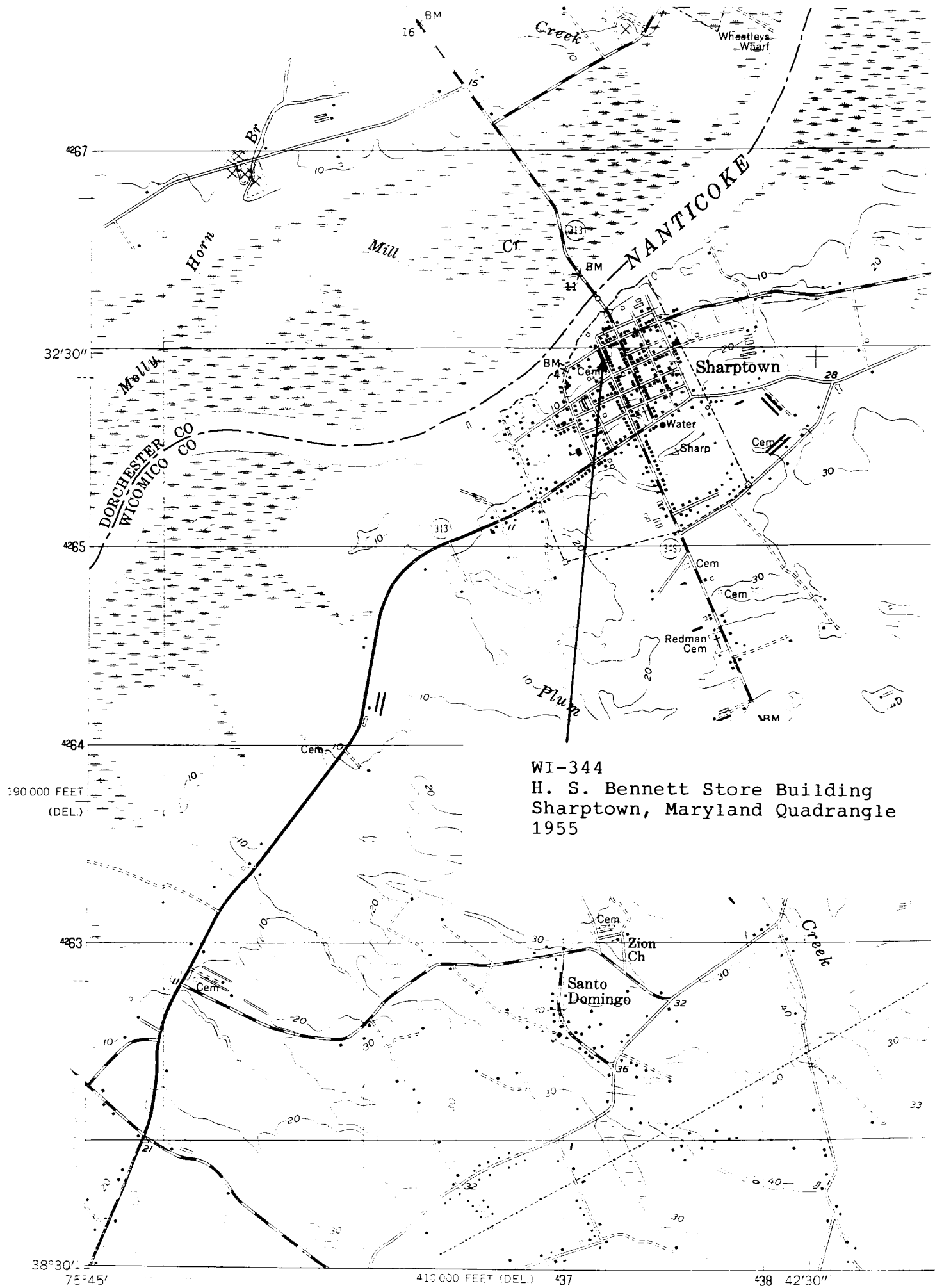
state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600



WI-344
H. S. Bennett Store Building
Sharptown, Maryland Quadrangle
1955



